

Bulletin

OCTOBER 21, 1948

TISHRI 18, 5708

Simhath Torah Services Honors New Students

The annual Consecration Service will be held at *Simhath Torah* service on Monday, October 25, at 5:30 P.M.

Children registered for the first time in our Religious School will participate in this beautiful ceremony. The message of welcome will be delivered by Robert Rifkind. Prayers will be offered by Ruth L. Kertzer and Hannah Salomon. Other officers of the Junior Congregation will also participate in the ceremonies. Flags and sweets will be distributed by the Parents' Association. Committee chairman for festival celebrations is Mrs. George Heyman. Following is the list of children to be consecrated:

Lawrence David Ackman, Louise Baskind, Louis Brause, Roberta Brause, Alan Curtiss, Judith Ann Dolger, Peter Eliel, Stephen Eliel, Berta Fleischer, Carl Gerkin, Martin Gold, Betty Golden, Robert Golden, Richard Goldman, Andrew S. Gottlieb, Doris Granetts, George Grumbach, Leslie Hartley, Susan Linda Herbert, Adam Heyman, Edward B. Kleban, Stephen Kon, Arnold Kropf, Linda Laval, Stephen Leicht, Ann Leichterling, Jack May, Stanley Nemeroff, Mat-

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Congregation Honors On Simhath Torah To Mrs. A. Geller, Hon. B. Botein and Mr. I. M. Cohen

Rabbi Greenberg Speaks at Reception

Dr. Simon Greenberg, provost and acting President of the Jewish Theological Seminary will deliver the main address at a reception to be tendered the recipients of the *Simhath Torah* honors on Tuesday evening, October 26th, at 8:30 p.m. The reception has been arranged to afford the entire Congregation the opportunity of honoring those designated as *Kalah Mafteret*: Mrs. Abraham Geller — *Hathan Torah*: Judge Bernard Botein—and *Hathan Bereshith*: Mr. Isadore M. Cohen.

Rabbi Steinberg and Rabbi Kertzer will also address those present and the guests of honor will make their responses at this time.

The Sisterhood will be in charge of refreshments for this event, which all Park Avenue Synagogue members are urged to attend. An evening reception on this occasion represents a departure in the life of the Congregation. It has been so arranged by the Ritual Committee specifically to enable everyone to participate.

Simhath Torah to be celebrated on October 26th brings with it this year not only the traditional honors annually bestowed by the congregation upon two men who have been outstanding in synagogue, Jewish and communal affairs, but in addition, for the first time in the history of the Park Avenue Synagogue, a woman is to be honored as *Kala Mafteret*, Bride of the Prophetic Message.

It is altogether fitting that the woman of the congregation chosen to be the first honored is Mrs. Abraham N. Geller, formerly Chairman of Women's Division of the U.J.A. For fifteen years Dorothy Geller has been affiliated with the Synagogue and during that time an active member of Sisterhood. She has been working for U.J.A. for the past ten years, since the first United campaign began in 1939. She started this work as a member of the U.J.A. Committee of the Sisterhood, then as its Chairman. She has served in many capacities in the same organization, until for the past two years acted as one of its Chairmen.

Dorothy Geller's devotion to Judaism and Zionism has found other outlets as well. She has long been a member of *Hadassah* and the Women's League for Palestine, and is a member of the Board of the New York United Palestine Appeal.

Former Chairman of Board of Trustee Honored

When the words "stand forth" to complete the reading of the very last portion of the *Torah* are pronounced, Judge Bernard Botein will step forward as the *Hathan Torah*. This honor is being bestowed upon him in recognition of the position of prominence which he has attained in Jewish and civic circles as a result of his endless devotion and effort.

A graduate of the College of the City of New York, he has practiced law in various capacities from Assistant District Attorney of New York County, to

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SCHEDULE FOR HOLY DAY SERVICES

<i>Sabbath Eve</i>	Friday, Oct. 22nd, 6:00 p.m.
<i>Sabbath Morning</i>	Saturday, Oct. 23rd, 9:30 a.m.
<i>Shemini Azereth Eve</i>	Sunday, Oct. 24th, 6:00 p.m.
<i>Shemini Azereth Yizkor Service</i>	Monday, Oct. 25th, 9:30 a.m.
<i>Simhath Torah Eve</i>	Monday, Oct. 25th, 5:30 p.m.
<i>Simhath Torah</i>	Tuesday, Oct. 26th, 9:30 a.m.
<i>Sabbath Eve</i>	Friday, Oct. 29th, 6:00 p.m.
<i>Sabbath Morning</i>	Saturday, Oct. 30th, 9:30 a.m.
<i>First Late Sabbath Eve Service</i>	Friday, Nov. 5th, 8:30 p.m.

Musical portion of Service under direction of Cantor Putterman, assisted by choir. Mr. Isidore Geller at the organ.

Daily Evening Worship 5:45 p.m.

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Contributors

VOL. 3

No. 2

From The Desk of Rabbi Kertzer

Gabriel Cohen, the intrepid publisher of the National Jewish Post, does not hesitate to blow an editorial trumpet that will stir up a good deal of controversy.

A few weeks ago, he had the temerity to predict that the year 5709 would witness an upsurge of Jewish activity. The synagogues would be more crowded than ever, and active participation in Jewish affairs would be very much in evidence.

I think that Gabe Cohen was treading on fairly safe ground. The year 5708, the most exciting year in modern Jewish history, furnished us with enough stimulus to create an *interest* in things Jewish. It remains to be seen whether that *interest* will be translated into *action*, into active participation in our religious and cultural life.

As these words are written, *Rosh Hashanah* has come and gone, leaving a very pleasant taste, I believe, for all of us. There seemed to be a larger attendance at service, and according to the Herald Tribune, that experience was shared by many New York synagogues. But more important, a warm and buoyant spirit seemed to pervade the atmosphere in the neighborhood of 50 East 87 Street. I had the feeling that most of us were saying, some of us for the first time in our lives: "It's good to be a Jew."

It may be good to be a Jew, but it's not easy to be a good Jew. By good, I mean an informed Jew.

This year, our Adult Education Committee is offering the membership of our congregation an ideal instrument that will help us to be good—and informed Jews.

The Committee, under the able leadership of Dorothy Geller and Celia Starkman, and our Chairman, Harold Levin, will offer Home Study Courses that vie with some of our colleges in the variety of topics offered.

For any ten to fifteen couples in the congregation, such courses as The State of Israel To-Day, Religion and Psychiatry, Conversational Hebrew, Comparative Religion, Elementary Hebrew (to be taught by one of our own members, Mrs. Herfman Weiss), Modern Palestinian Hebrew, Jewish Music Appreciation, the Ethics of the Fathers, the Language of Prayer, the Future of the American Jew, Jewish Current Events analyzed as they happen, and many others will be offered.

There are two ways of joining one of these groups, which will meet in one another's homes at intervals of two, three or four weeks, or as the group determines. Either get in touch with Mrs. Geller or Mrs. Starkman, or call either Rabbi Steinberg or myself to say that you are prepared to organize a group of your friends for a course. Or communicate with us your interest in a specific course, and you will be invited to register.

Those of you who know me well will recall the peculiar bee in my own bonnet. I still hope some day to offer a course in the summer that will involve a trip to Israel. The first time Mrs. Kertzer and I visited Palestine, back in 1936, there was no inflation, round trip tourist was \$306.00. Today it is exactly double. Yet I'm still hoping.

But don't let this rather idle excursion distract you from the main thought of my message. We should be happy to see a score of Home Study Courses operating simultaneously within the family of the Synagogue. By *Rosh Hashanah* 5710, we may be able to say: "It's good to be a Jew" with a real sense of accomplishment.

—MORRIS N. KERTZER

The BULLETIN would like to thank the New York World-Telegram for its kind permission in allowing the picture of our spiritual leaders used in last week's issue of the BULLETIN.

Men's Club Opens Year With Political Forum

The season's first meeting of the Men's Club took place on Tuesday evening, October 19th, in the Vestry of the Synagogue. Continuing the political presidential discussion started last year, the topic for the evening was a forum "Is Dewey the Answer?" The participants for the evening were Murray I. Gurfein, affirmative, Mathew M. Levy, negative, with Victor J. Herwitz, President of the Men's Club acting as Chairman for the evening's discussion.

Murray I. Gurfein was for many years associated with Mr. Dewey as his Chief Assistant in the District Attorney's office. He was head of the Rackets Bureau of that office. During the war he served with O.S.S. from which he was discharged as a Lt. Colonel, after having received important decorations, including the Order of the British Empire. He has been identified prominently with Zionism for many years and represented the Jewish Agency last year in a U.N. inquiry which took him to Palestine. He is presently practicing law in partnership with Oren Judd, formerly New York State Solicitor General.

Mathew M. Levy is a former Judge of the Municipal Court. He is a prominent labor attorney who has been active in many civic, legal and Jewish projects and is now the Bronx Chairman of the Liberal Party and State Chairman of that party's Law Committee. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Jewish Federation and also of Lebanon Hospital.

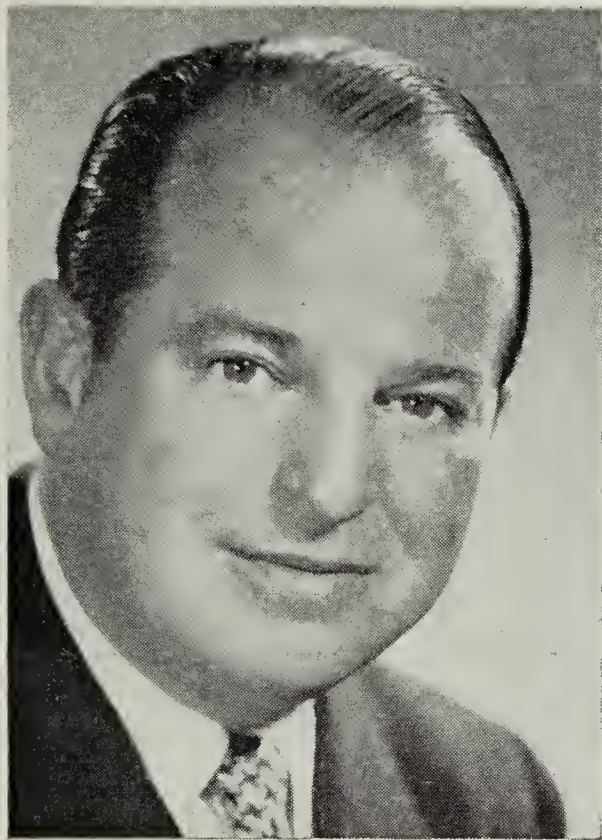
An innovation in Men's Club's activities was the invitation extended to the ladies of the Synagogue to attend the evening's discussion with their husbands. Because this is a presidential election year, and because of the wide interest in the subject and the many requests received, a large audience attended and participated in the discussion.

Honor New Students

(Continued from Page 1)

thaw Notkins, Daniel B. Penner, David Isaac Penner, Andrew David Rabinowitz, David J. Reichman, James Rome, Michael Rosen, Frederick Simon, Martha Stein, Andrea Theodore, Eric Weinberg, Joseph Weintraub, Elliot P. Zucker.

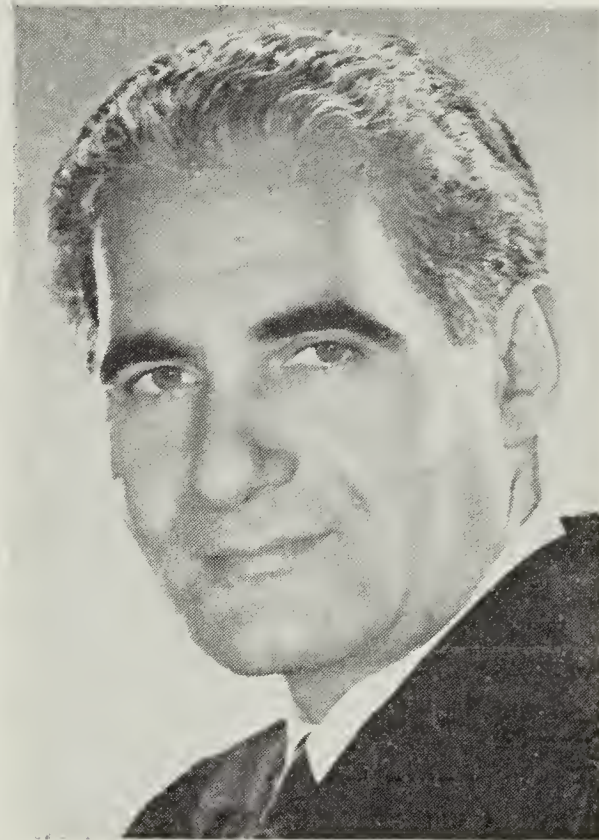
Park Avenue Synagogue Honors These Outstanding Members



Mr. Isadore M. Cohen



Mrs. Abraham N. Geller



Hon. Bernard Botein

Teen-Age Square Dance Inaugurates Fall Season

The first Teen-Agers event will be a Barn Dance on Saturday evening, October 30th, at 8:00 p.m. in the Vestry.

Under the sponsorship of the Parents' Association, the Teen-Agers will have an opportunity to get acquainted with newcomers to the group as well as to enjoy being with old friends again.

Naturally, there will be ample refreshments for teen-age appetites. There will also be community singing, social and square dancing, the latter being called by the well-known Dick Kraus. Games and prizes are also included.

All that is necessary to enjoy this evening of fun are good spirits and your invitation.

If any members of this group are artistically inclined, they are urged to volunteer to make up some posters for the event. Help is needed with the decorations, too! Call Mrs. I. Edward Gevirtz, chairman of the committee, at ATwater 9-2591.

Book Fair — Coming !

Watch for the Parents' Association Book Fair. It is coming to the Synagogue in mid-November, to be celebrated with a Sisterhood meeting on November 17th, a Parents' Association meeting on November 18th, and a Children's Book Party during the same week.

Engagements

Congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. E. D. Friedman on the engagement of their daughter, Renée, to Mr. Mitchell J. Cooper; and to Mr. and Mrs. Albet Becker on the engagement of their son, Dr. David, to Miss Naomi Isaacson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rueben Isaacson.

Marriages

Best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Leo Eppsteiner on the marriage of their daughter, Jean Shirley, to Dr. Maurice O. Belson.

Births

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Arluck on the birth of their son; to Mr. and Mrs. Laurence W. Schott on the birth of Donald, their son; to Mrs. Anna Edelman on the birth of her granddaughter, Elizabeth Morris; to Mr. and Mrs. Max Zahler on the birth of their granddaughter; and to Mrs. Julius Cohen whose son, Richard, has announced the birth of his son.

Anniversaries

Our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Drachsler who celebrated their thirtieth anniversary on October 6th, and to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Levey who celebrated their twenty-fifth anniversary on October 11th.

Death

The Synagogue extends sincere condolences to Mr. Henry Howe on the recent loss of his father.

Simhath Torah Service

(Continued from Page 1)

Justice of the Supreme Court. This is an office to which he was appointed by Governor Lehman in 1941 and to which he was elected the following year.

As for his Jewish interests, he has been Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Park Avenue Synagogue; President of the Metropolitan Council of the United Synagogue of America, an organization of which is presently Honorary President; a Trustee of the Park Avenue Synagogue; and a Vice-President of the Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Association.

Nathan Bereshith to be Communal Leader

The honor of *Hathan Bereshith*, Bridegroom of the Beginning, will be bestowed upon Mr. Isadore M. Cohen at the *Simhath Torah* services this year.

It will be his privilege to begin again the recital of the *Torah*. Mr. Cohen has been for some years an active member of our Congregation and more recently a member of its Board of Trustees. He has, all his adult life, been a communal leader, participating particularly in Jewish civic, philanthropic, Zionist and congregational causes. Among other things, together with his father, he made possible the publication of an anthology of Jewish liturgical music.

It is then, as a signal instance of the Jewish layman engaged in communal and philanthropic work, that our Congregation pays him this tribute.

Sisterhood Speaks

The Sisterhood opened its season on Wednesday, October 20th, with a dessert luncheon. The program consisted of a political forum featuring outstanding speakers from the Democratic, Republican and Progressive Parties. This was followed by a stimulating discussion period. Mrs. Henry Howe was Chairman of the day.

The Sisterhood is seeking volunteers to help with its new project at the Jewish Guild for the New York Blind, 1880 Broadway, on Wednesdays. This day will be designated as Park Avenue Synagogue Day. Cards will be sent to all Sisterhood members listing different activities in which they may partake. The Sisterhood and Mrs. Milton Sivek, Chairman of this project, are anxious to have full cooperation from the members.

The Sisterhood is proud of its member, Mrs. Dorothy Geller, who this year is to be honored at *Simhath Torah*. This is the first time that a woman has been so honored in our Congregation.

Jr. League Barn Dance Planned for Oct. 31st

On Sunday evening, October 31st, the Junior League will hold its October Barn Dance. The program will consist of square dancing, social dancing, and community singing. The square dancing will be led by Mr. Bill Cairns. Here is a chance for everyone to have a gay evening. Miss Zelda Halperin and Mr. Marvin Holden are co-Chairmen for this affair.

The Junior League acted as host to Synagogue members and their friends at a *Sukkot* celebration held on Sunday evening, October 17th, in the Vestry of the Synagogue. For this occasion, an Eternal Light dramatization, "How They Knocked The Devil Out of Uncle Ezra" was presented by Junior League members and directed by Miss Lucille Duke. Cantor Putterman sang the liturgical music as he does on regular Eternal Light broadcasts. The entire evening's program was under the Chairmanship of Miss Duke, the Messrs. Louis Heller and Ira Lee. Among those participating in the program were Ethel Drachsler, Bernard Feinstein, Dudley Greenstein, Zelda Halperin, Louis Heller, Marilyn Hittner, Selma Jerskey, Judy Klenert, Ira Lee, Shepard Lieberman, Abe Maurer, George Spencer, and Judy Strasburger.

Unusual Religious Gifts Donated by Congregants

Each year our congregation receives, by way of thanksgiving offering or memorial, gifts for the adornment of the Synagogue or for use in the liturgy.

Among this year's gifts is one which will catch the eye and stir the heart of every worshiper. It is a curtain for the Ark, a *Paroches* as it is known traditionally, which has been embroidered by Mrs. Anna Edelman. Mrs. Edelman has done the piece in tribute to her late husband, Morris, long a leader in the life of our fellowship and, during years before his demise, one of its Vice-Presidents.

Mrs. Edelman, of whose artistry with the needle the congregation has already had evidence in our embroidered pulpit cloths, derived the inspiration for her design from a Renaissance Jewish *Paroches* of which, however, she made her own free adaptation. Her curtain will be draped behind the Ark doors. The latter will be opened as the Service begins; the former whenever the *Torah* is to be disclosed.

Another significant gift is a *Shofar*, an heirloom in his family, given by Mr. Henry Krinsky. This *Shofar* will be sounded during the forthcoming High Holydays.

Another extraordinary gift is that of a Spice Box for *Havdalah*, of South German origin, made in the shape of the Tower Gate of Frankfurt. This rare antique piece was purchased for and presented to the congregation by Mr. Edward Munves.

Will You Attend?

Congregation

Reception for *Simhath Torah* honorees, Vestry, Tuesday, October 26th, 8:30 p.m.

Parents' Association

Open meeting, Vestry, Wednesday, October 27th, 8:30 p.m.

Teen-Agers

Hallowe'en Dance, Vestry, Saturday, October 30th, 8:30 p.m.

Junior League

Barn Dance, Vestry, Saturday, October 30th, 8:30 p.m.

Adult Education

Committee meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Victor J. Herwitz, 9 East 96th Street, Monday, November 1st.

School Highlights

The School Board has approved the purchase of a 16 mm. Sound Projector for the use of the Religious School. Bulletin Boards and Library Tables will also be provided for each of the classrooms. We are confident that these teaching aids will enrich the school experiences of our children.

An extensive music program has been arranged for the students of the Religious School. Hebrew folk music and synagogue music will be taught to all classes as part of the regular curriculum by Miss Leah Krohn, our music teacher. Opportunity will be given to the specially gifted students to join a school choir which will perform on holiday programs and at Junior Congregation.

The members of last term's Class 7 were promoted to Confirmation Class 1, instead of to "Class 8". This change in class designation has occasioned a new sense of unity and seriousness of purpose in the work of the class. After a successful year, the students will continue through Confirmation Class 2, and final confirmation services. Under the leadership of its teachers, Messrs. Hahn and Rubinstein, the class will begin an intensive study of the Bible and the history of the Jews in the United States in addition to the usual confirmation preparation.

Rabbi Kertzer attended the inauguration of Brandeis University at Boston, on October 7th. He participated in the academic procession as the official representative of the University of Iowa.

THE PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE
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ARTHUR OCHS
Asst. Treasurer
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Sexton
Address all communications to
EMANUEL ROSENTHAL, *Secretary*

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Rabbi Morris N. Kertzer
Park Avenue Synagogue
50 East 87 Street
New York 28, New York

In answer to your request for the names of the young people of the Synagogue, for use in planning youth activities, the following are those of my family between ages of 13-30, with their addresses if away from home.

NAME

AGE

ADDRESS

Kindly check if interested

Joining Junior League (18-30)

" Teen-agers (13-18)

Parent's Name